

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HJR 815

February 21, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Designates the second floor of the State Capitol as a space to recognize, through busts, statues, and other methods, appropriate elected officials.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$123,000/FY20-21/State Capitol Commission

Assumptions:

- There are currently nine busts on display on the second floor of the capitol.
- Those represented in likeness: David Crockett, David Farragut, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Albert Gleaves, Cordell Hull, Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson, Sampson Keeble, and James K. Polk.
- Of these 9 individuals, only David Farragut and Albert Gleaves were not elected officials.
- It is assumed that the busts for both David Farragut and Albert Gleaves will be removed from the second floor of the State Capitol and will be replaced by two new busts designed in the likeness of two appropriate elected officials.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 4-1-412(b) prohibits any memorial regarding a historic conflict, historic entity, historic event, historic figure, or historic organization that is, or is located on, public property, from being removed, renamed, relocated, altered, rededicated, or otherwise disturbed or altered, unless a public entity exercising control of the memorial petitions the Tennessee Historical Commission (THC) for a waiver of such prohibition.
- A notice of the petition is required to be published on the website of the public entity and in at least two newspapers. The THC is required to conduct initial and final hearings on the petition during regularly-scheduled THC meetings. Any petition that fails to receive a two-thirds vote shall be denied.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-8-302, the State Capitol Commission (SCC) has the power and duty to, among other things, establish policy governing maintenance of the state capitol.
- For the purposes of this fiscal analysis it is assumed that the SCC panel and subsequently the THC will approve a measure to remove the two busts and replace it with two new busts.

- Based on responses to the 2017 Local Government Survey conducted by the Fiscal Review Committee staff, participating local government officials reported the average cost for a newspaper notification is \$114. The total one-time cost of publishing a notice of the petition in two newspapers is estimated to be \$228 ($\114×2).
- Based on information provided by the Department of General Services regarding previous costs of statue relocations, it is estimated that the proposed relocation of the two busts from the state capitol to its new destination would result in a one-time increase in state expenditures to the SCC of \$7,500 ($\$3,500 \times 2$ busts).
- According to the SCC, total expenditures by the SCC on the David Crockett Monument were \$57,647. Based on this information, it is reasonably assumed that the one-time cost of a new bust would be identical to that amount, or \$57,647.
- A one-time increase in state expenditures of \$115,294 ($\$57,647 \times 2$ new busts).
- If additional methods of commemoration, including additional busts and full statues are commissioned additional state expenditures would be incurred. However, the timing and extent of any such expenditures are dependent upon multiple unknown factors and cannot be quantified with reasonable certainty.
- A total one-time increase in state expenditures of \$123,022 ($\$115,294 + \$7,500 + \228).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jdb